



Indiana Energy Conservation Challenge Launched

Program makes \$400,000 Available to Nonprofits for Energy Efficiency Upgrade Projects

For Immediate Release

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(Indianapolis)—Lt. Governor Becky Skillman has announced the Community Conservation Challenge. This program will make grants from \$50,000 to \$100,000 to nonprofit groups for community scale energy efficiency projects. The competitive grant program opens August 4, 2010 and applications must be submitted by October 1, 2010.

“When people in a community come together, good things are going to happen,” said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman. “The Community Conservation Challenge will help bring Hoosiers together to create lasting energy efficiency in their own neighborhoods.”

Winning projects are expected to result in significant energy conservation, have broad community support, leverage funds, and be highly visible. While applicants must be nonprofit organizations, collaborations with both public and private entities are encouraged. Projects may include retrofits of private and nonprofit buildings, institutions, and healthcare facilities.

The grants require a 50% cost match on the part of the applicant, but that cost share may include in-kind contributions. Eligible technologies may include, but are not limited to HVAC, lighting, windows, doors, green roofs, insulation, and other commercially-available energy conservation technologies.

Initial funding for the program is from federal funds being administered through the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED). “It’s important for these projects to have broad community support,” said Brandon Seitz, OED Director. “Without the community support that will sustain the initiative over time, even the best concept won’t be successful.”

The Community Conservation Challenge will have \$400,000 available at launch. It’s anticipated this program will fund anywhere from 5-8 large energy efficiency retrofit projects. Non profit agencies that are interested in the Challenge must apply online. Program guidelines including eligibility requirements are also available online at <http://www.energy.in.gov>.

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The Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in December 2005 as an extension of the Indiana energy office. Under the leadership of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, OED is responsible for the state’s energy policy. For more information visit www.energy.in.gov or follow OED on twitter, IndianaEnergy.

For updates from the Lt. Governor and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.in.gov/lg/